

IN THE DRAWINGS:

Please replace the drawing sheet containing Figure 7B with the attached Replacement Sheet containing amended Figure 7B.

REMARKS

Applicant request favorable reconsideration of the subject application in view of the preceding amendments and the following remarks.

The claims now pending in the application are Claims 1 to 48. Claims 1 to 24 have previously have been withdrawn from consideration pursuant to a restriction requirement. Accordingly, claims 25 to 48 are presented for consideration, the independent claims being Claims 25 and 36. Claim 25 has been amended herein.

Figure 7B stands objected to because alphanumeric characters S93 and S94 contained therein are not set forth in the specification. Attached hereto is a Replacement Sheet containing amended Figure 7B in which S93 and S94 have been removed. Favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the objection to the drawings are requested.

The Abstract also stands objected to, for exceeding 150 words. A new Abstract containing less than 150 words is appended. Favorable consideration and withdrawal of the objection to the Abstract are requested.

The specification stands objected to because “(S81)” should read “(S91)” on page 30 (line 23). Applicant traverses this objection inasmuch as “(S81)” was deleted by the substitute specification filed September 13, 2004. (Specifically, please see page 24 of the clean version of the substitute specification.) Favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of this objection are requested.

Claim 25-27, 30, 33-38, 41, and 44-46 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 (Section 103) as unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 6,515,697 (Yamada et al.) in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,111,662 (Satoh et al.). Additionally, claims 28 and 39 stand rejected under Section 103 as unpatentable over Yamada et al. in view of Satoh et al., and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,188,431 (Oie), claims 29, 31, 32, 40, 42, and 43 stand rejected under Section 103 as unpatentable over Yamada et al. in view of Satoh et al., and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,282,362 (Murphy et al.), and claims 47 and 48 stand rejected

under Section 103 as unpatentable over Yamada et al. in view of Satoh et al., and further in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,300,976 (Fukuoka). Applicant traverses these rejections.

In an aspect of Applicant's invention, independent claim 25 recites an image transmission apparatus. Among other features of the claimed apparatus, data amount information indicating an amount of target image data and information of a priority order of the target image data are transferred to an external apparatus having display means for displaying the data amount information and the information of the priority order.

Reception means receives from the external apparatus a response signal indicating whether the external apparatus will accept transmission of the target image data.

In another aspect of Applicant's invention, independent claim 36 recites an image reception apparatus, featuring, among other things, reception means that receives from an external apparatus a transfer including data amount information indicating the amount of target image data and information of a priority order of the target image data; and output means that outputs an indication on a screen indicating acceptance to receive the target image data in accordance with the data amount information, the information of priority order, and a free storage capacity.

Thus, in each of independent claims 25 and 36, data amount information indicating an amount of target image data and information of a priority order of the target image data are transferred and displayed.

In this manner, as an exemplary application of the claimed invention, information of priority order may be added to a file, such as an image file or the like, and the thus obtained file is transmitted to a reception device. At the reception device, the file and the added priority order are displayed, thus allowing an operator on the reception-device side to select the file based on the intention of the operator of the transmission-side device.

Applicant submits that the cited patents, whether taken alone or in combination, fail to teach or suggest at least these features of the claimed invention.

Yamada et al. relates to a digital camera with detachable auxiliary memory, and discloses a digital camera operable in a copying mode in which image data stored in a main memory MM upon photographing are transferred and copied to a detachable auxiliary memory MC by way of a bus B. During copying, the number of uncopied image data in the main memory MM and the number of image data which can be copied to the auxiliary memory MC are sequentially displayed in a liquid crystal display section, while each image data is copied with management data indicative of the date and time of copying or the like added thereto. However, as acknowledged by the Examiner, Yamada et al. fails to disclose or suggest at least the feature wherein transfer means transfers information of priority order of image data, and reception means receives the information of priority order of the image data.

Satoh et al. fails to remedy the deficiencies of Yamada et al. Satoh et al. relates to an electronic imaging apparatus in which a decompression file and control file .J6C are retrieved and read out so as to process a transmission program, so as to transmit image files .J6I and sound files .J6S. Applicant understands Satoh et al. only to teach that image files are specified, for example as DSC00001.J6I, DSC00003.J6I, and DSC00004.J6I, as discussed at column 18, lines 51-57. However, nowhere is Satoh et al. understood to teach or suggest at least the feature wherein transfer means transfers information of priority order of image data and reception means receives the information of priority order of the image data.

Oie, Murphy et al., and Fukuoka are understood to be cited merely for teaching features of independent claims. Applicant submits that those patents do nothing to remedy the deficiencies of Yamada et al. and Satoh et al., discussed above.

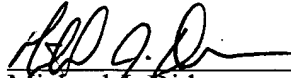
For the foregoing reasons, Applicant submits that independent claims 25 and 36 recite features that patentably define Applicant's invention over all of the cited patents, whether the patents are taken alone or in combination. Favorable reconsideration and withdrawal of the Section 103 rejection to these claims are requested.

Each of the remaining claims depend from one of the independent claims. These dependent claims are submitted to be allowable by virtue of their dependency from allowable base claims, and for reciting other patentable features of Applicant's invention. Favorable and independent consideration of the dependent claims are requested.

Applicant submits that all outstanding matters have been attended to, and that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and an early Notice of Allowance are requested.

Applicant's attorney may be reached in our Washington, D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

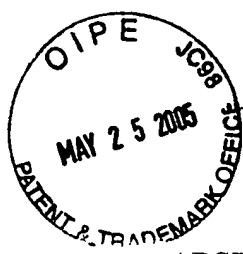
Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. J. Didas", is written over a horizontal line.

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ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

An image transmission apparatus transfers to an external apparatus data amount information indicating an amount of target image data and information of a priority order of the target image data. The apparatus also receives from the external apparatus a response signal indicating whether the external apparatus will accept transmission of the target image data in accordance with the data amount information, the information of priority order, and a free storage capacity to store the target image data in the external apparatus. Transmission of the target image data is controlled in accordance with the response signal.